

Claim 12 has not been changed by this Amendment and remains as follows:

12. A connection strip, comprising:

a plastic housing;

insulation-piercing terminal contact elements arranged in said plastic housing;

shielding plates arranged between said insulation-piercing terminal contact elements; and

5 at least one base rail connected to said shielding plates, said shielding plates and said base rail being integrally formed from a metal sheet with each shielding plate being connected to said base rail via a web and being arranged rotated approximately 90° with respect to said base rail.

Claim 13 has not been changed by this Amendment and remains as follows:

13. A connection strip in accordance with claim 12, wherein:

said shielding plates are spaced from said insulation-piercing terminal contact elements.

Claim 14 has not been changed by this Amendment and remains as follows:

14. A connection strip in accordance with claim 12, wherein:

said shielding plates are electrically insulated from said insulation-piercing terminal contact elements.

Claim 15 has not been changed by this Amendment and remains as follows:

15. A connection strip in accordance with claim 12, wherein:

said web includes a substantially 90 degree twist;

said shielding plates and said base rail are substantially flat.

Claim 16 has not been changed by this Amendment and remains as follows:

16. A connection strip in accordance with claim 12, wherein:

a width of said web is narrower than a width of said shielding plates.

Claim 17 has not been changed by this Amendment and remains as follows:

17. A connection strip in accordance with claim 12, wherein:

one end of each of said webs is connected to said base rail and is substantially parallel with said base rail plane;

another end of each of said webs is connected to said shielding plate and is substantially parallel with said plane of said shielding plate.

Please cancel claims 18 - 24 without prejudice.

Claim 25 has not been changed by this Amendment and remains as follows:

25. A connection strip in accordance with claim 12, wherein:

said insulation-piercing terminal contact elements are arranged on a first side of said housing and extend toward a middle of said housing;

said base rail is arranged on a second side of said housing substantially diametrically